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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Peter A. Gottlieb et al.

Serial No.:

09/864,037

Filed:

May 23, 2001

For:

BATTERY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Examiner:

F. Fleming

Art Unit:

2836

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 13, 2002, please preliminarily amend the above-identified patent application as follows. A set of claims as pending is attached to this Amendment.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 24-49 without prejudice and add the following new claims 50-72.

50. (New) A UPS system for providing backup power to a load, the system comprising:

a power input;

a plurality of batteries;

a plurality of battery housings, each containing one of the batteries, the batteries being coupled in parallel;

a plurality of battery-monitor processors, each monitor being disposed in a respective one of the battery housings and coupled to the corresponding battery;

a UPS processor coupled, and configured, to receive monitor data from the plurality of battery-monitor processors;



